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Documents - 7

West Virginia Writers' Project
RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION REPORT

Subject Commerce & Industry
Iron Ore-

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Research Worker Samuel G Smith

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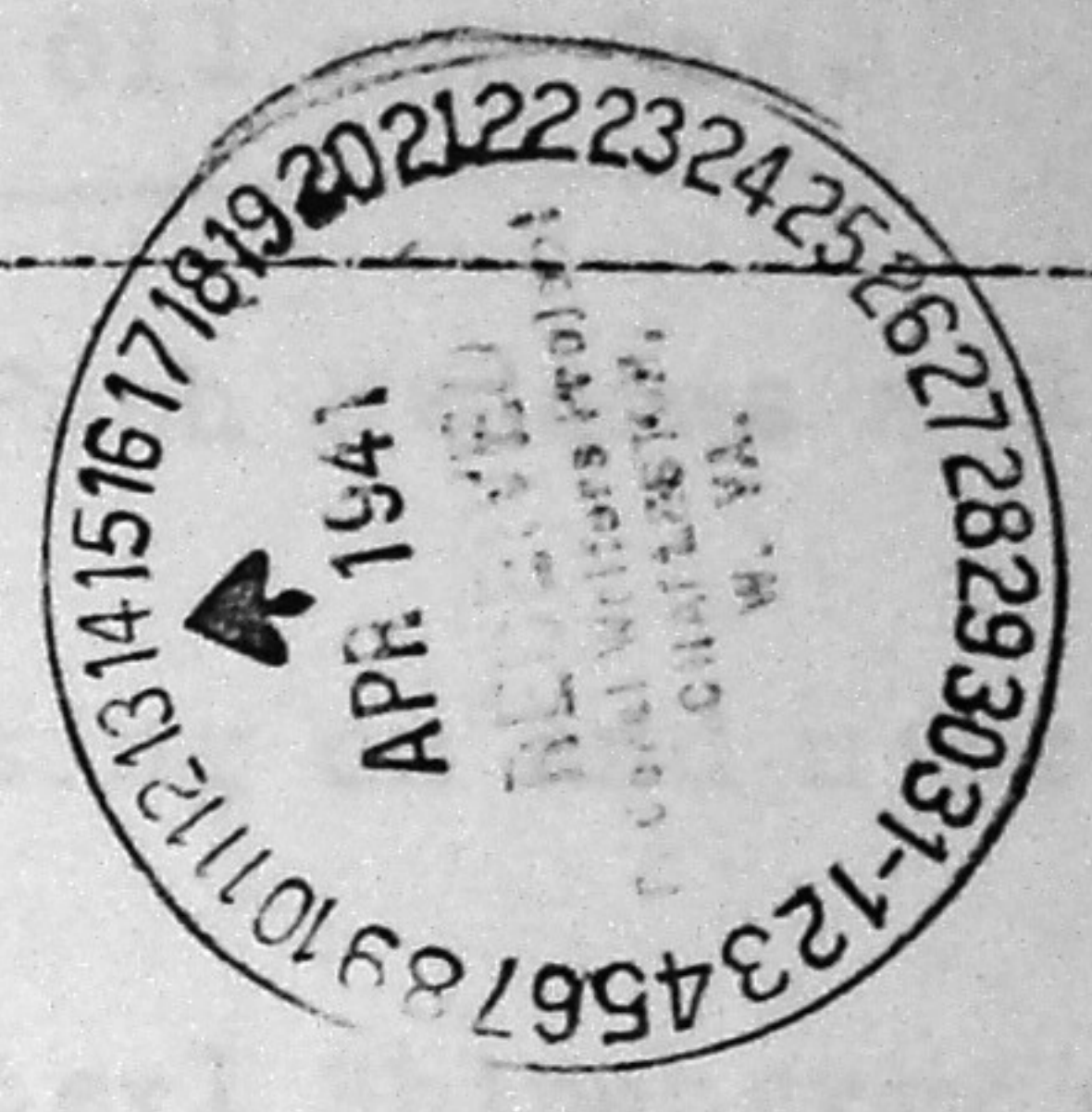
Typist Samuel G Smith

Date Typed 4/12/41

Source Mr. & Mrs James Reed. Huntersville. W. Va. Date Filed _____

Court Records. Marlinton. W. Va.

Calvin W Price. " " "



and Industry. Samuel G Smith Hillsboro, W.Va. Pocahontas County.

- Greenbrier Ore Company.--

41 In July 22 1940 this company was Incorporated, its principal offices in the Capital City Building in Charleston, and to date they have worked in both Pocahontas And Greenbrier County. Their charter for the following to mine strip or process all kinds of minerals, coal and other surface and subsurface products including Iron Ore, Manganese, Coal, Oil and Gas.

The incorporators were Rush, Esther M and A Rush Meadows all of Charleston, W.Va. and during 1940 and 41 they were operating on and near Browns Mountain on the farms of James Reed, Raymond and Sterl Shinaberry and the Amos McLaughlin place.

The equipment used was a steam shovel a bull dozer and a drill they having contracted the hauling of the Ore .It was trucked to Marlinton and there ground and made ready for the smelter that was constructed to make a test of its purity, in making this test they filled the makeshift smelter furnace with a mixture of iron ore, limestone and coal this was called a smelter furnace, when the test was finished they had a pile of iron of varying degrees of perfection and purity but but they jumped at a magnet in lively fashion. This test was made in March 1941 another test will be made with a 20 foot stack of masonry construction.

Iron Ore is found in many sections of Pocahontas County but especially is this true on the eastern part of the Greenbrier River espec-

in Browns Creek and Browns Mountain, The Buckley Mountains extending to Beaver Creek, Knapps Creek and extending to Frost and beyond .Oscar Oconnel is prospecting in the Beaverlick Mountains and has been since 1940.

If Iron Ore is found to ^{be} in paying quantities Pocahontas County will again have a boom like she had during the lumber operations that took place from 1880 to 1925.

Pocahontas County is rich in natural resources as we find coal in many sections of the county especially the northwestern part as there is coal on Cheat, Gauley, Elk, Black, Mountains some of which has been opened up but the greater part has never been opened up for the simple reason it is most all found back a considerable distance from the R R and the hard road therefore until the other fields play out Pocahontas Countys coal no doubt will not be opened up to a very great extent until that time, coal is also found and has been mined on Briery Knob,

It is hoped there is oil in Pocahontas County, but in all the drilling none have been successful as yet as they have drilled in many sections of the county but most of this was done on Williams River some time ago but they plugged up the holes and left.

Our timber is practically gone and it is hoped someone will come in and develop the coal, iron and any other resources of county.

merce & Industry. S.G. Smith Pocahontas County.
is the general belief that John Whitmire had the first circular
mill in operation in Pocahontas County, this operation took place at the
mouth of Knapps Creek sometime in the 80 s .

Inf. J.B. Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va.

William Perry had an up and Down mill 2 miles from Huntersville about 1890
on Cummings Creek.

Inf. R. L. Syms. Huntersville. W. Va.

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Henry McCormick is supposed to be the first man that filed a band saw
this was during the operation of the White pine by the St. Lawrence Boom & Mfg.
Co. that had their mill at Ronceverte but got the logs in Pocahontas County.

Inf. J.B. Buckley. Buckeye. W. Va.